



## NEWS RELEASE

### Media Contact:

Jane Robison, Assistant Chief  
Media Relations Division  
213-974-3525  
[JRobison@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:JRobison@da.lacounty.gov)  
Twitter: @LADAOOffice

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## Suspect Charged with Four Attempted Rapes

A Los Angeles man has pleaded not guilty to four counts of assault with intent to commit rape following a series of attacks on women in Santa Monica and West Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Antonio Montano (dob 1/23/82) returns to court on June 1 to set a date for his preliminary hearing at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center, Department 30, in case BA436617. Montano, who was charged and arraigned on Tuesday, is being held on \$2 million bail.

Deputy District Attorney Holly Harpham with the Sex Crimes Division is prosecuting the case.

Montano is charged with attacking three women in the Santa Monica area and one woman in the Wilshire area. All four victims are between the ages of 23 and 41.

The first attack occurred on March 6, followed by two attacks on March 22. The last occurred on May 17. In all four attacks, a man grabbed the victims from behind and pinned their arms against their bodies. In each case, the women screamed for help and the attacker ran away as neighbors or friends came to the rescue.

Montano was arrested May 17 by LAPD officers who were called after neighbors heard a woman screaming

If convicted, Montano faces up to 10 years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department and the Santa Monica Police Department.

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## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.